

Satoyama Initiative Regional Workshop in Africa

Conservation and sustainable use of natural
resources in a Sahelian village landscape, Kaska-
Nigeria

11 August 2015

Presented by:

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and

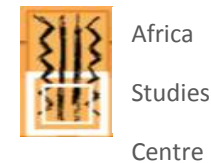
Mohammed Garba Boyi (Nigerian Conservation Foundation)

BirdLife Project 'Living on the Edge'

Developing and implementing approaches that combine conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including that **of migratory birds and their habitats**, while promoting **livelihoods**, poverty alleviation and an increased food security in the Sahel



Nigerian Conservation Foundation



Funded by:



Goal

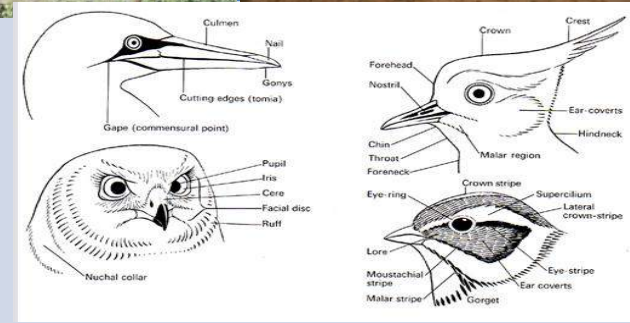
- Habitats for migratory (and Afrotropical) birds are restored and conserved, and livelihoods of rural communities improved, through participative natural resource management at 13 sites in 4 Sahelian countries;
- Enforced capacities for sustainable land use and bird conservation; increased awareness and support for flyway conservation;
- Nature-inclusive policies for land use and development in the East Atlantic Flyway

Objectives

Wet and dry habitats important to migratory birds are protected and restored where necessary.



Enhance capacities of local civil society networks and communities

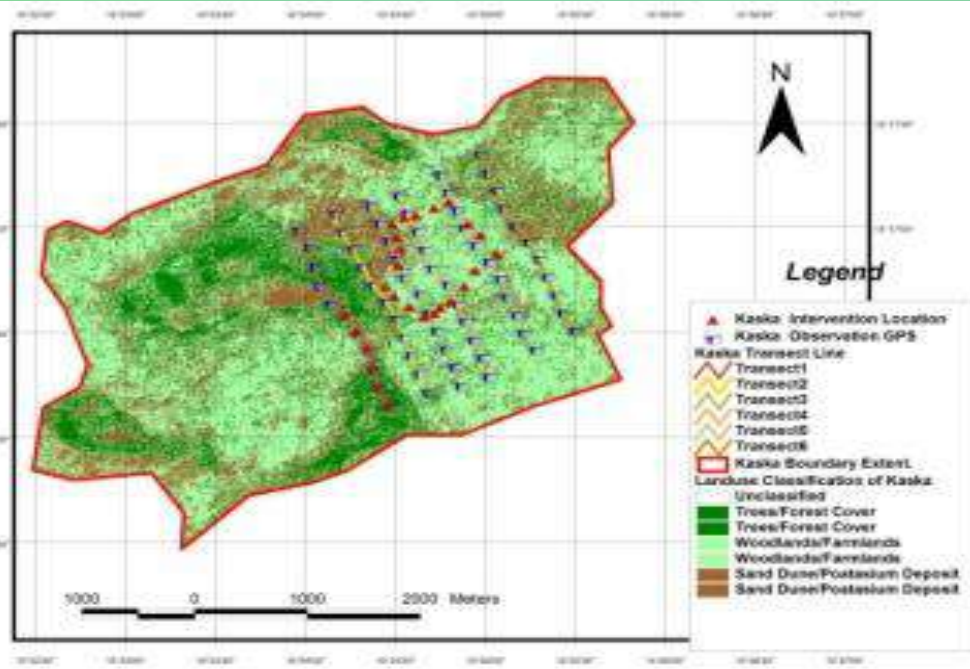


Livelihoods
Sustainable land use lessens pressure on natural resources, and improves livelihoods

Influencing Policies
Environmental conservation and restoration become part of national and regional land use policy in the Sahel.



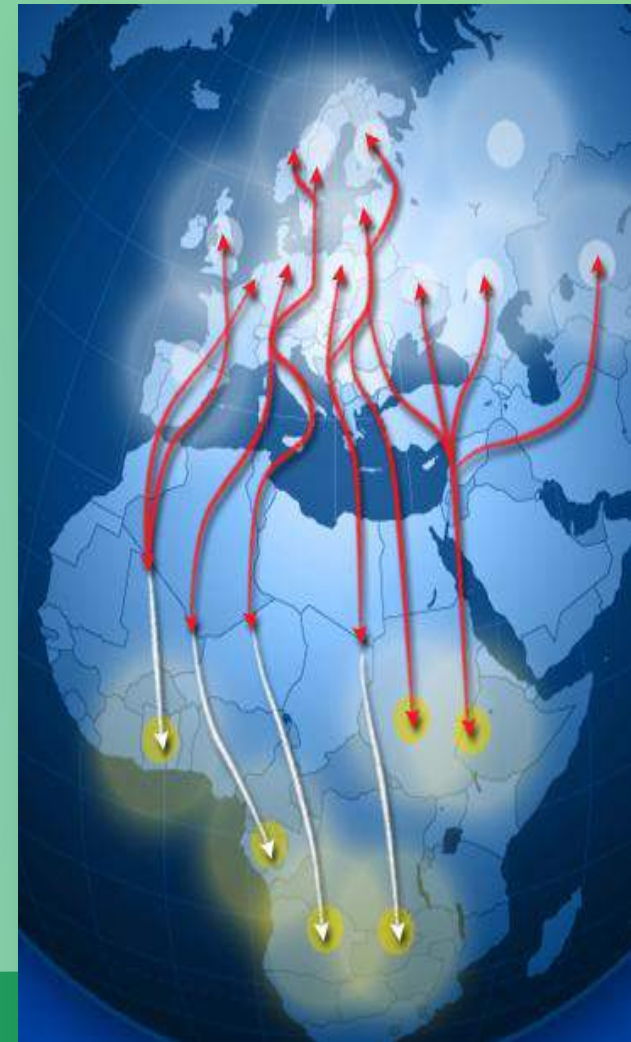
Selected site: Kaska, Nigeria



- Kaska , a small settlement situated 350km NE of Kano in the semi arid areas of Yobe State Nigeria,
- Population: Kaska (3000)
- Heavily dependent on natural resources (water, firewood, hunting, timber, medicinal plants, wild foods)
- Predominantly agrarian, but also engage in hunting, livestock rearing, sales/collection of wild resources and petty trading.

Benefits

- Natural grasslands interspersed with depressions, partly wooded
- Migratory birds need access to rich stopover sites along their migration routes-key staging sites next to the Sahara
- Migrants rely on multiple, widely-dispersed sites for their survival.
- Sites in North Africa and along north coast of Med. important for autumn crossing of Sahara.
- **Sites in Sahel important for spring crossing of Sahara**



Threats

Proliferation of sand dunes -every April when strong pre-rainy season sandstorms sweep sand into their settlements.

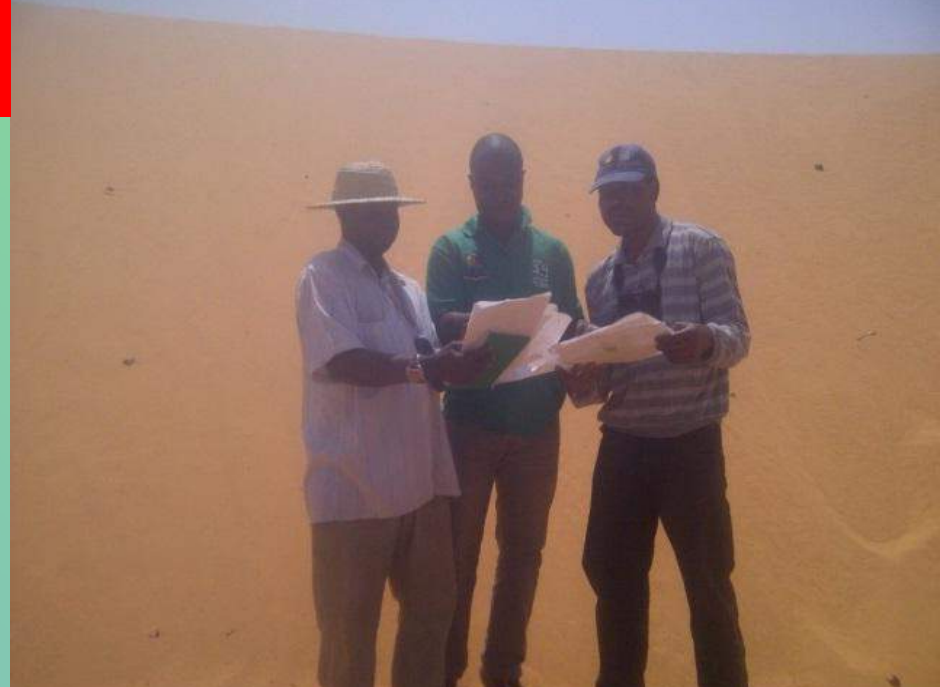
Climate Change- 10 - 40% less rain; 2-7 °C rise in temperature, will affect the range of many species, enabling some and disabling others

Overgrazing- alters the composition and structure of the vegetation

Slash and burn

Fuelwood collection

Unsustainable hunting of migratory birds



Threats

- Increasing inequality in the distribution of wealth (North- South) divide
- Breakdown of bureaucracies under corruption
- Conflict over the use of resources
- Poor environmental knowledge

Impacts

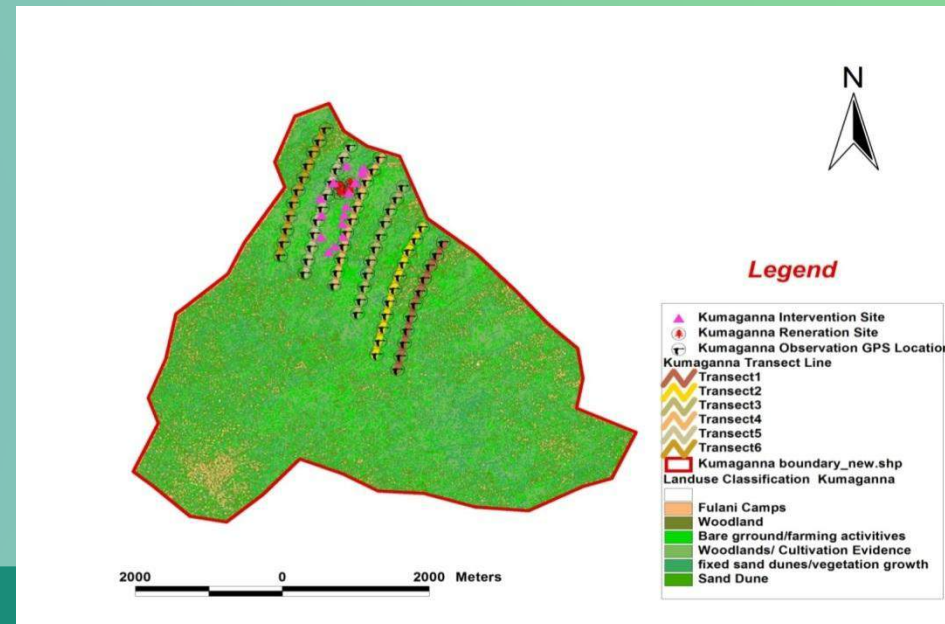
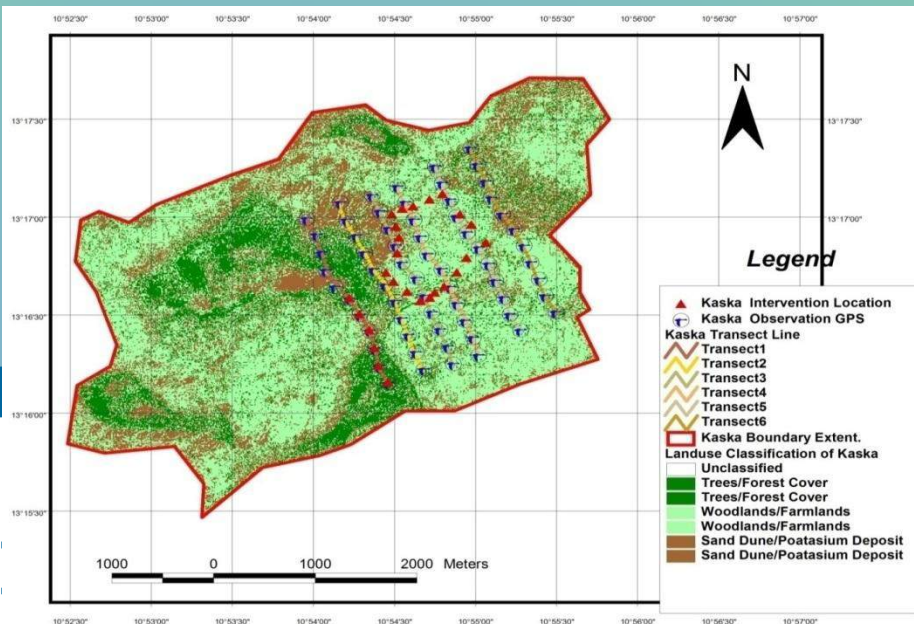
- Decline in water resources
- Conflict over resource use: Pastoralists, Fishermen and Arable Farmers)
- Decline in migratory birds species: Globally: 248 species of migrant land birds, 43% are declining. Locally: White-throated Bee-eater *Merops albicollis*, Common whitethroat *Sylvia communis* , Northern wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*,
- Decline in native tree species
- Loss of lives

The value of the places where people live is diminished, and the goods and services that the environment provides decline.

* Displacement of communities/loss of arable land/loss of traditional grazing areas/loss of livestock/loss of water points

Ecological Responses

- Research into the fundamental ecology of migrants in Africa and en route there.
- Habitat and species monitoring
- Participatory Natural Resource Management
- Land use/land cover maps to identify the area of intervention in each sites and also delineate the habitat restoration sites .
- Nature restoration –tree nurseries and tree planting
- Status and Trends Report (Pressure –State –Response Framework



Social Responses

- Energy efficient stoves to reduce consumption of fuel wood
- Bee Keeping – leading to sustainable use of trees
- Production of mats using doum palm leading to wide use and protection of oases
- Drilling of boreholes-source of drinking water for people and livestock was established
- Poultry Farming to reduce hunting of migratory birds



Opportunities: Local people bring added value to conservation

1. The consequences of environmental degradation (and conservation) are *experienced* locally... therefore these places matter to people (incentives to action, **motivation**)
2. People have **local knowledge**, (ecological, social, cultural) about the places where they live, or which they visit frequently – valuable for monitoring, assessment and management
3. Most **decisions** about the environment (resource use, management) are made locally – networks and information can help influence those decisions
4. On the spot – **rapid** and **efficient** reporting of biodiversity and threats



Opportunities: Traditional Governance

- Lawan/Bulan Traditional Councils- overall administrative head of the village

Lower Traditional governance structures:

- Farming is headed by the "Sarkin noma",
- Fishing "Sarkin ruwa" ,
- Livestock keeping "Hardo"
- Hunting "Sarkin baka"

Opportunities: BirdLife Partner support

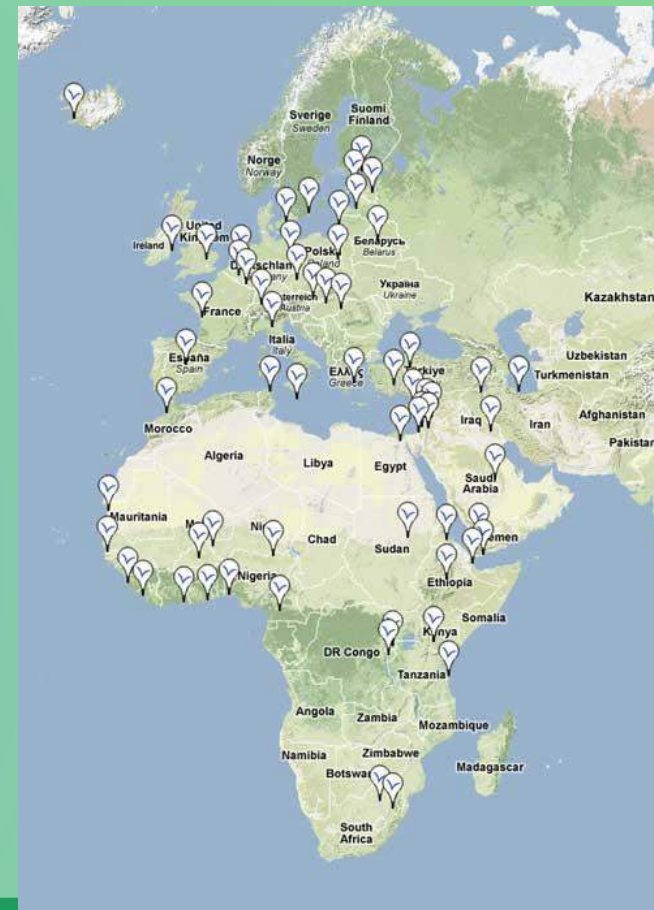
Linkages across different BirdLife programmes



Enabling legislation

Collaboration

- 3 State Ministries (Women Development, Environment, and Forestry)
- Local Governments Authorities
- Relevant Agencies - Federal Ministry of Environment.



BirdLife is Unique

The only organisation (network) with a local to global structure

BirdLife constituency

Local

Local Conservation Groups
Supporters
Volunteers
Members

National

National Partners

Regional

Regional Councils

Global

Global Council

Institutions/ stakeholders (examples)

Local communities

Resource users
Land managers
Local government

National government
Media
Legislators
National civil society

Regional conventions

Global conventions
Multi-national corporations
International Finance Institutions
Global media
Consumers
Global civil society

Flows

Knowledge

Resources

Information

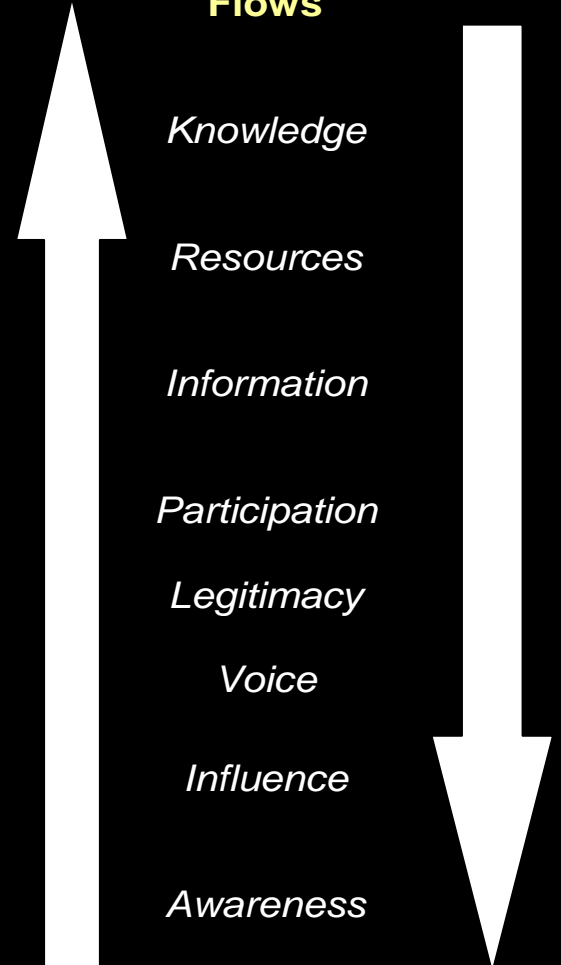
Participation

Legitimacy

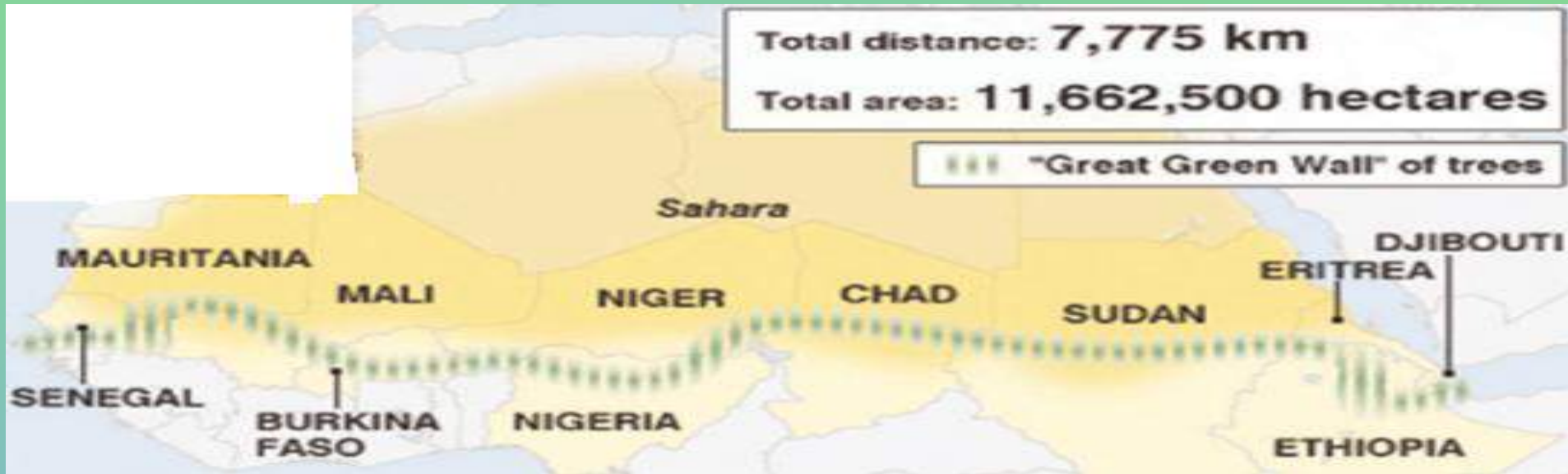
Voice

Influence

Awareness

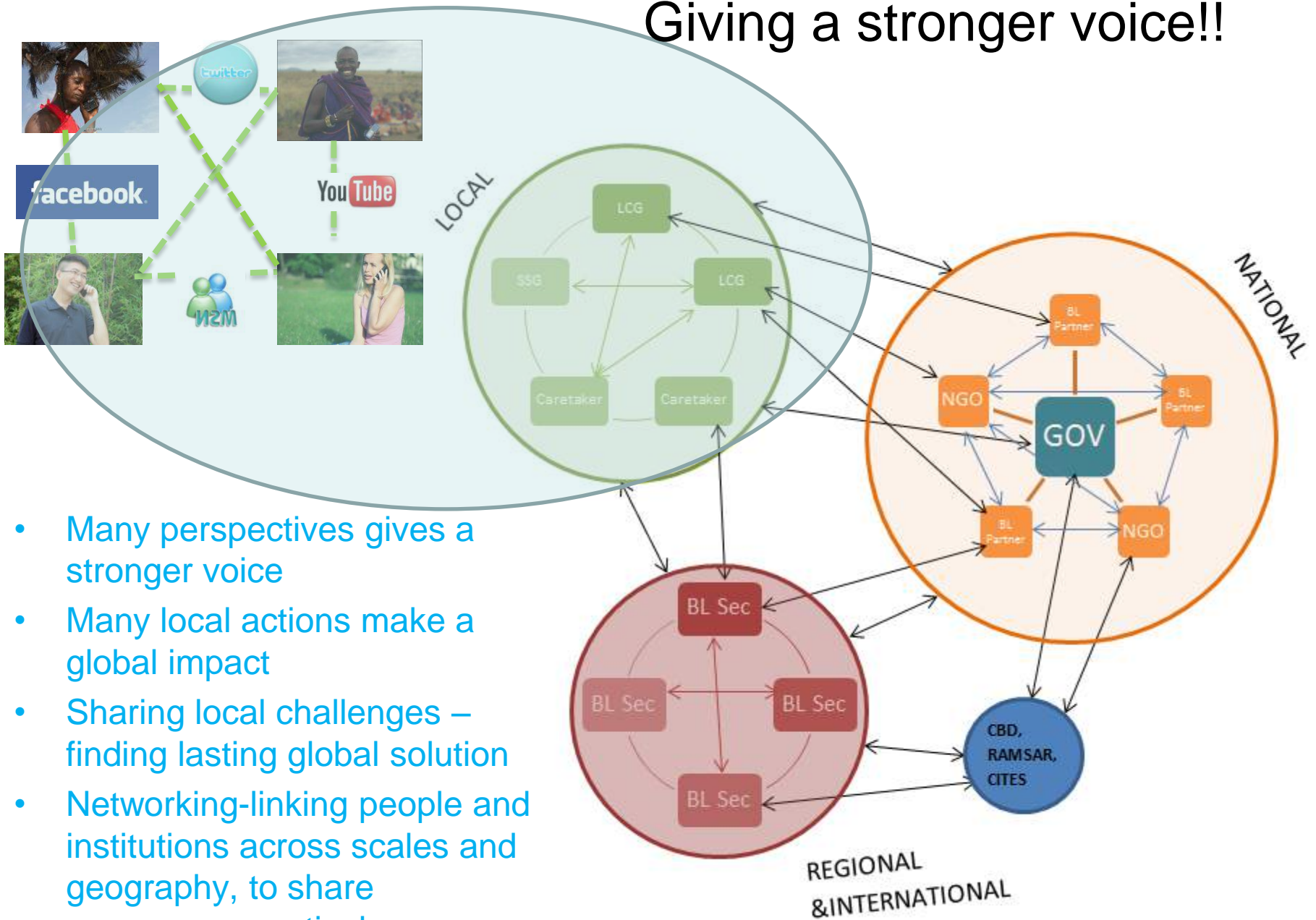


Opportunities: Great Green Wall Initiative...



- Tree nursery
- Community plantations (10 Ha)

Giving a stronger voice!!



- Many perspectives gives a stronger voice
- Many local actions make a global impact
- Sharing local challenges – finding lasting global solution
- Networking-linking people and institutions across scales and geography, to share resources, practical knowledge and expertise.

Challenge: Capacity and expectations

Local communities:

- New technical skills needed
- Literacy and education
- Erosion/loss of traditional knowledge base
- Poverty (time, resources to participate)
- Often short of funds
- Stability (members)

BirdLife Partner

- Skills, capacity and to support and network local organisations
- Competing priorities
- Non-traditional skills for a 'Nature' organisation

